

July - September, 1995

Vol. 15 No. 6

BARTalk

BART RODEO

**BART's Annual
Rodeo Competition
May 13, 1995**

Nearly 600 BART employees, family and friends gathered at the Hayward Yard on May 13 for the annual Rodeo competition.

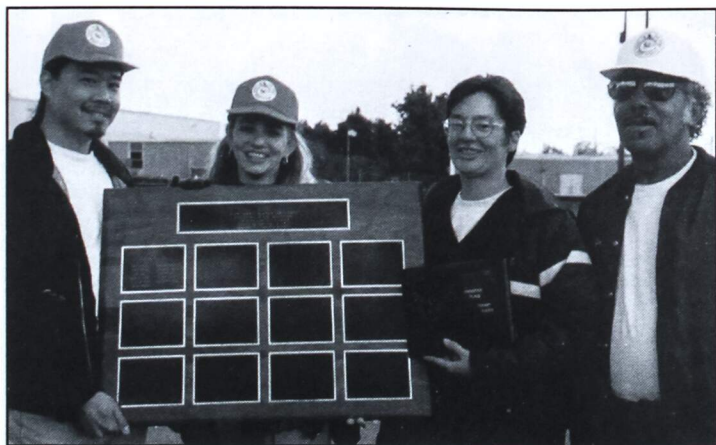
Onlookers cheered on the train operators, station agents, vehicle maintainers, track workers and Power and Way electricians who put their skills to the test through the grueling competition. Employees competed for prizes and a chance to attend the national competition in New York City, hosted by the American Public Transit Association on June 10.

Fifteen train operators competed in emergency operations; route alignment; stopping distance and trouble-shooting (isolating and correcting a malfunction). First place went to Ben Feary, Linda Callahan placed second, while Mario Estevez came in third. The "Best Yard" nod went to Richmond. Ben and Linda advanced to the APTA competition, but did not place.

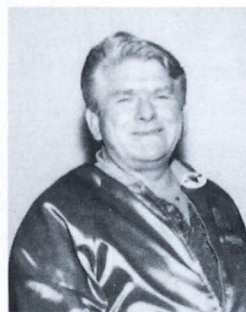
Seven station agents were tested in their knowledge of Automatic Fare Collection; "fingertip" maintenance (correcting minor malfunctions); ticket interpretation, station inspection.

▼ **More Rodeo coverage on page 4.**

▼ Colleen McCarthy, Train Operator (second from left), is joined by Joe Downs, Train Operator (far right) to congratulate First Place electronics technician Robert Fong and Second Place train operator Linda Callahan.



25 Years



▲ Honored recently for 25 years of BART service were (left to right) **Mary Ann Burton** and **Wayne Emery**.

◀ **Milt Waalkens.**

▼ Competing at the national APTA finals in New York were (left to right) train operators Ben Fear and Linda Callahan, along with the "Rail Maintenance Team" of James Riddle Jr., Gary Fong, and Greg Graham. The Rail Maintainers came in Third Place at the national competition.



Education "Shines" at BART's Second Annual "Sons to Work" Day



It was "off to work" for 200 young men at BART on July 12, as the transit district hosted the Second Annual "Take Our Sons to Work Day." Employees were invited to bring their sons (or a friend's son) to work and introduce them to the various craft jobs and professions used in the rail transit industry.

The event was modeled after the national "Take Our Daughters to Work Day," sponsored by the Ms. Foundation. BART hosted daughters on April 27 for this year's education-

al event for young women.

Guided by the event's theme, "Sons Shine," the day began with an orientation at the Metro Auditorium featuring speakers from the General Manager's office, the BART Police Department and mechanical operations. The rest of the day featured individual departmental activities, including tours,



special programs and educational events.

"There were educational activities in many departments designed to enhance the learning experience for these young men,"

said Lisa Hailey, manager of personnel services and overall event coordinator.

In separate tours, boys visited the central control area to view the internal computer operations of the BART system; the vent structure of the San Francisco Bay Tube; and the Hayward Yard to see how maintenance operations work in a



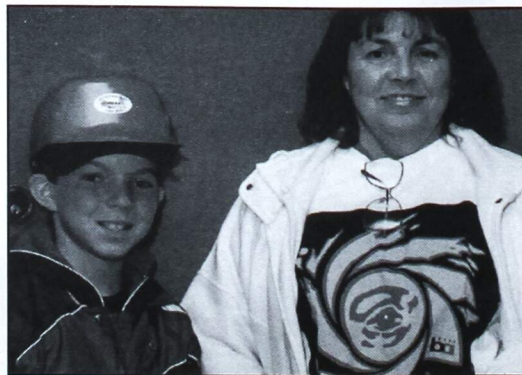
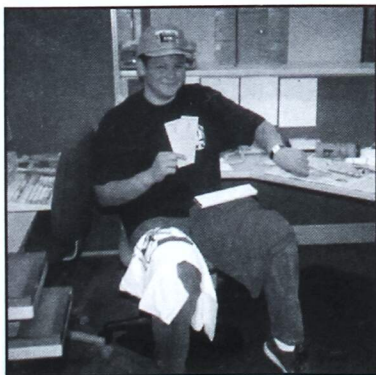
real shop environment. The Morrison-Knudsen plant in Pittsburg also hosted a tour to show work in progress on the new C2 cars. Boys also visited at the Colma Station.

The young men got a chance to work with Computer-Aided Design (CAD) machines; ride the new C2 cars; and to see, first-hand, the mechanics of the automatic fare collection equipment. BART's Police Department showed off its canine unit and allowed the boys to view Fire Arms Automated Training equipment.

Some employees also offered to mentor, allowing boys to "job shadow" the worker and ask their own questions about the world of work.

"The event was fun for the boys, and especially for the BART employees who participated," noted Lisa. "It felt good to play a role in helping to educate the next generation, and who knows — we may even have recruited a few future employees for BART."

What does it mean to be a BART employee? From train operator to accountant to mechanic, 200 boys attended "Sons Shine" on July 12 to learn how education can help them pursue a career with BART. Here are just some of the fun moments for the kids (and BART workers!!) as the young men toured facilities, "job shadowed" workers and thought about their futures. **b**



Sgt. Langner Graduates from Leadership Institute

Sgt. Steve Langner recently became the first BART police supervisor to graduate from the prestigious POST Supervisory Leadership Institute. He was among 23 police sergeants saluted during commencement ceremonies held May 24 in San Diego. The nine-month course is certified by the Calif. Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and is "endorsed by command-level and Chiefs of Police for its progressive ideas and leadership-style management philosophy," noted BART Police Commander John Kerwin. **b3**



◀ BART Police Commander John P. Kerwin congratulates Sgt. Steve Langner upon his graduation from the POST Supervisory Leadership Institute.

Officers Laursen, Kelly Lauded for Life-Saving Efforts

BART Police Officers Dennis Laursen and John Kelly recently received commendations for actions that saved a civilian life.

On January 18, Laursen and Kelly responded to an automobile accident near the 19th Street BART Station in Oakland. One driver had suffered a heart attack, was not breathing properly and had no pulse. The officers called for emergency personnel to respond to the incident, and began providing CPR on the victim.

"Your quick action and team effort were the determining factors in saving this person's life," noted Chief of Police H.E. Taylor. "Your exemplary performance is commended." **b3**

BART POLICE ROUND UP



▲ BART Commander John Kerwin (left) is joined by BPOA President Fred Crabtree (right) in saluting Officers Dennis Laursen and John Kelly (center).

CSA Morales Praised for Bravery

BART Police Community Service Assistant Hector Morales recently received a commendation for an act of bravery contributing to a suspect arrest.

On January 10, Morales responded to a struggle between two officers and a violently resisting suspect. Pepper spray and baton strikes had not subdued the suspect, and both officers had been injured. Morales intervened to aid the arrest and prevent further injury to the officers.

"Through your selfless devotion to duty," noted BART Police Chief H.E. Taylor, "you distinguish yourself with a conspicuous act of bravery." **b3**



► BART Police Sgt. Charles Johnson (left) presents Community Service Assistant Hector Morales with an award for his brave acts.

20 Years



15 Years



Eight employees were recently honored for 20 years of service to BART (left to right): Linda On, Ray Crist, Anna Wong-Newlon, Tony Geida, Irene Borcover, Roy Diesterich, Nora Yee and David Smith.

Lining up for congratulations on 15 years of service to BART are (left to right, standing): Elizabeth Kimura, Donna Wilkinson, Kathleen Runge, Michael Harer, Barbara Doyle, Dennis McNicoll, Lisa Villalobos, Katherine Myers, Maurice Gartrell, Gloria Martin, Tony Thurston, Maria Wells, Madaline Abuan and Lourdes Watts, along with (left to right, seated) John Zee, Floyd Miller and Wilbur Wong.



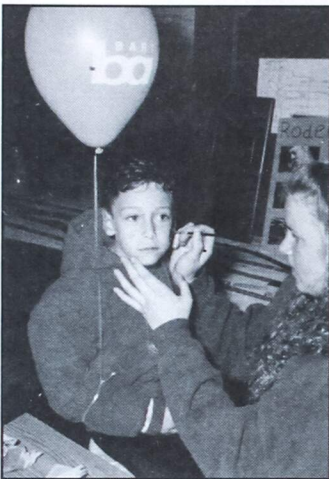
BART RODEO

**BART Rodeo is
a Success!**

▲ continued from front page

tion and "needlestick" (safety procedures for recovering syringes left in stations). The "top gun" station agents were Juan Espinoza in first place, followed by Jerry Hartley and Lynn Mahoney, who placed second and third. "Best Line" honors went to the Concord line.

Electricians Dave Remeta, Roger Gerundo and Bob Semple competed in four events, including CAD welding (linking C-bond wire to running rail), conduit bending, lighting control wiring and ballast (outdoor fixture) change out (using a bucket truck). All were tested on proper use of equipment, accuracy, speed and safety. Dave placed first and went to the finals as an observer as APTA did not sponsor a national competition this year for electricians.

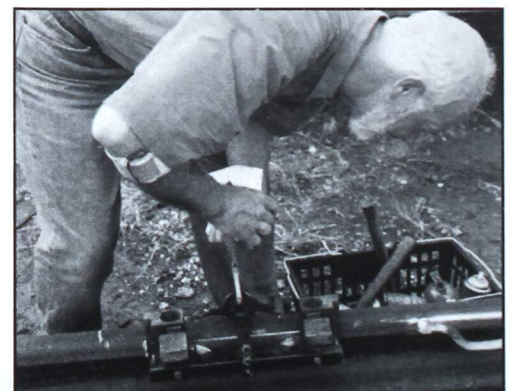
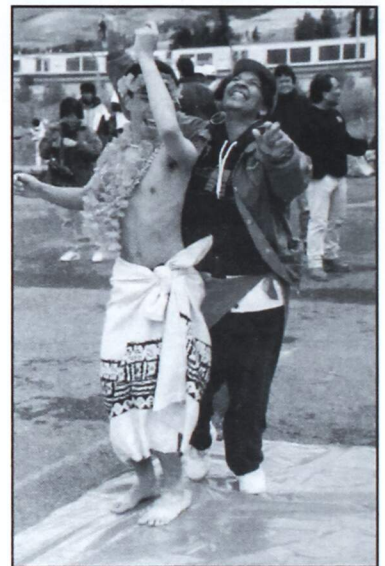
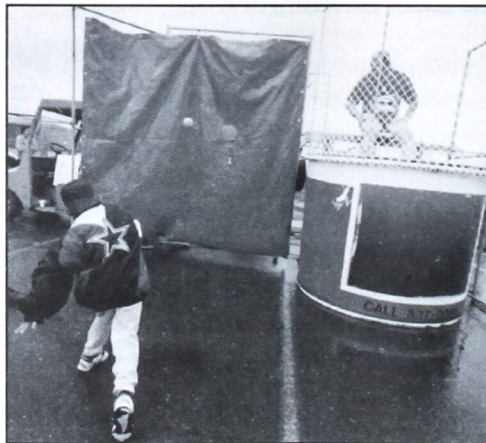


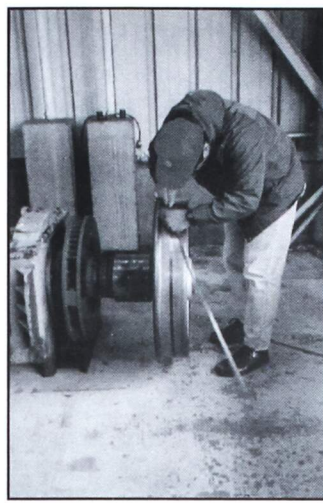
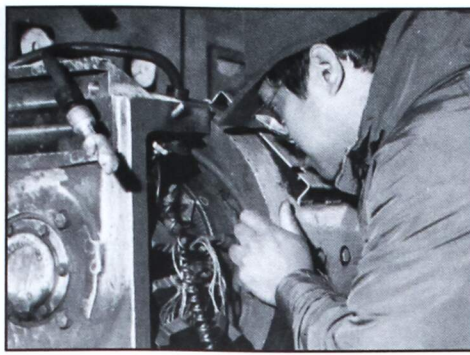
▼ "And the award goes to..." Our top-gun Rodeo winners in all categories (left to right, standing): Ben Fear, Eric Yan, Gary Fong, Harvard Golden, John Flores, Dale Thompson, Ken Morgan, James Riddle, Jr., Bob Semple, Roger Gerundo, and Dave Remeta, along with (left to right, seated) Linda Callahan, Greg Graham, and Mario Estevez. Not pictured is Alan Evangelista.



Eight transit vehicle mechanics, six transit vehicle electronics technicians and four transit vehicle inspectors vied for the top three places in their respective events. Those placing included mechanics James Riddle Jr., first, Ken Morgan, second and Dale Thompson, third. Placing first for the technicians was Gary Fong, followed by John Flores and Eric Yan. Greg Graham came in first for the inspectors, followed by Harvard Golden and Alan Evangelista.

The first-place winners in this group comprised BART's "Rail Maintainers





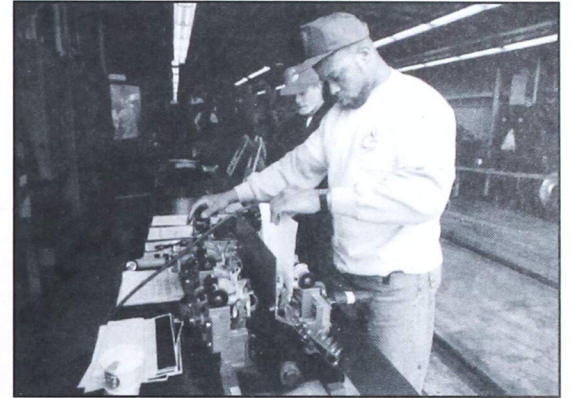
Team" that went on to New York City. The Team of Gary Fong, Gregory Graham and James Riddle Jr. captured Third Place this year, after coming in first at the 1994 APTA Finals held in Sacramento.

The APTA International Rodeo is now three years old, growing from seven transit agencies to 12 in 1995. Only BART has placed in the top three in all Rodeo events.

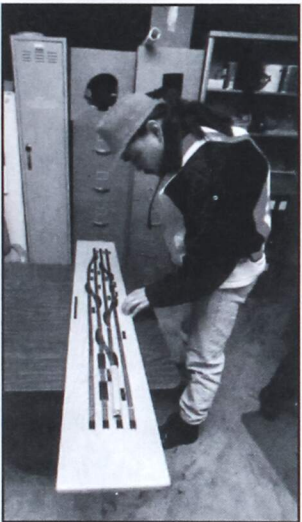
Noted the Rolling Stock & Shops newsletter, "This performance is indicative of the high level of capability in our overall workforce, as well as our teams' demonstrated ability to consistently perform under pressure." The 1996 international competition will be held in Atlanta.

After the Hayward event, everyone enjoyed BBQ, live music, kids' games (like the Astro Jump and face painting), and strolled through an arts and crafts fair featuring work by BART employees, who demonstrated their talent for creating unique hand-crafted wares.

"Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help make this year's Rodeo one of the best," said event co-chairperson Martha Taylor, assistant chief transportation officer. From judges to coordinating lunch, entertainment and the arts and crafts fair, BART employees shined. "We couldn't have done it without you." **b**



▼ Dick Taylor, C-Line Manager (left) congratulates Station Agents Lynn Mahoney, Juan Espinoza, and Jerry Hartley on their Rodeo success.



First Golf Tourney a 'Hole in One' with BART Employees

A "good idea" during a chat between Victoria Palmer and Rollie Naish led to an enjoyable day of sport on June 24 when over 100 people gathered at the Brentwood Country Club for golf and dinner at BART's first Invitational Golf Tournament.



"Players, start your golf carts" for BART's first annual Invitational Golf Tournament! Employees, family and friends enjoyed a day of fun on June 24 at the lovely Brentwood Country Club, deep in the heart of "corn country" in eastern Contra Costa County.

An avid golfer and active in her homeowners' association, Vicky had the right connections to set up the tourney in her own backyard. She recruited Rollie Naish in Legal and Mike Healy in Public Affairs to call upon professional contacts for prize donations. Fliers went out to all, and some 77 BART employees, family and friends signed up to play in 19 teams.

Hot temperatures and hot golf! What a combination as the shotgun event began that June afternoon in "corn country" USA. All players received t-shirts and hats, and towels went to the first 35 golfers. Rules called for a four-player scramble, which meant all players took a first drive, then continued to play the best ball.

Besides regular tournament play, the event also featured several contests, including the popular "Beat the General Manager" at Hole 5 — 17 players beat GM Dick White at that hole. Three separate "Closest to the Hole" competitions for men and women drew 10 winners. The Longest Drive went to

Mike Delgado and Laura Moore, while Putting Contest winners were Dale Wensler and Alice Delgado. Dale and Alice received "third rail" putters, which were made in BART's shops.

The afternoon's festivities included a raffle with several valuable prizes — golf clubs; tickets to Marine World, the San Francisco Giants and a San Francisco bay cruise; gift certificates to the Brentwood Golf Course; BART and BMW jackets, a bracelet, photo frame, paper weight, and sport and alarm clocks, along with lots of t-shirts.

The top three teams were honored during a banquet presentation that evening at the Brentwood Country Club, which drew 102 players and guests. The top teams for the Par 72 course were Carroll Sheppard, Dorothy Dugger, Wade Gomes and Don Ferguson (score: 66); Ben Dabalos, C.C. Woo, Dick White and Leon Turner (score: 68); and Mike Delgado, Dan Riordan, Edwin Kung and John Prowznik (score: 69).

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make BART's first Invitational Golf Tournament a resounding success: Bill Farr, Dave Adam and Jim Ginsbach, station agents; Charlie Walker and Steve Williams, train operators; Dan Green, graphics; and Dean Leonard and Pat Patubo, support and analysis.

Mark your calendars now for BART's Second Invitational Golf Tournament, scheduled for April 27, 1996 at the Boundary Oaks Country Club in Walnut Creek. Late-comers had to be turned away this year. So, don't wait to join in the fun when sign-ups are announced for the 1996 tournament. **b**



Event chairperson Vicky Palmer (center) is congratulated for her organizing efforts by Deputy General Manager Dorothy Dugger and Mike Healy, Public Affairs Manager (who also served on the event committee and helped recruit prizes).



In Memory . . .

BART employees mourn the recent loss of two valued co-workers, Automotive & Equipment Supervisor Marvin Richard Door and Budget Monitor/Intermediate Clerk Lillian Curtis.

Marvin Door died of cancer on June 30 at the age of 46. He had worked for BART for 22 years and was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Vietnam War. Marvin enjoyed motorcycling, panning for gold and growing orchids, and was

considered a computer buff and video enthusiast.

A scholarship fund was established for the youth at her church, after **Lillian Curtis** died June 21. Donations to the Greater Bathesda Church were collected at BART offices and an initial check for \$1,420 was sent to the church in August. Employees wishing to further contribute to the scholarship fund may send checks to The Greater Bathesda Church of God in Christ, 5045 Foothill Avenue, Oakland, Calif. 94601, with a note on the check specifying the funds for the Lillian Curtis Scholarship Fund. **b**

FTA Notes Quality Improvement In Procurement

The Federal Transit Administration recently gave BART high marks for improving quality in procurement operations, and lauded BART's procurement manual as "one of the better" in the transit industry.

FTA conducts regular audits every four years, with an interim audit at the two-year mark. "FTA found we had made major improvements since our interim audit," said Al Verduzco, Chief Purchasing Officer.

"We lined up procedures to improve record-keeping, especially with supporting documents," noted Al. "We also completely revamped our procedures manual, which was too cumbersome. We trimmed it down to include only the most important requirements and to clarify procedures."

FTA auditors said BART's "comprehensive and detailed" procurement manual was "one of the better transit procurement manuals we have reviewed."

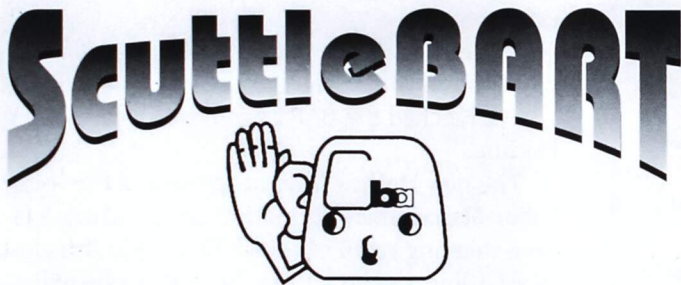
Auditors previously had asked for more detailed price analysis, "so we created a short-form Price Analysis that all buyers

and contract managers must complete with every purchase order," said Al. "This helps ensure competitive bidding."

FTA called attention to BART's relationship with Bay Area Transit Consultants, a contractor brought in six years ago to facilitate the many contracts required for the extensions projects. While FTA was concerned with delegating procurement to a contractor, BART management noted the arrangement had worked well for the extensions projects and maintaining the arrangement would be preferable in the short term.

However, BART agreed to amend its procurement manual to address future contracting support and tie external delegation more closely to BART's procurement department. BART also agreed to amend the manual in such areas as negotiating contract changes, bidder responsibility, contract options and progress payments.

"While we understood FTA's constructive criticisms," said Al, "we were very satisfied with their overall assessment that we had made major strides in improving our operation." **b**



While on the job at BART headquarters the evening of May 26, LMA System Service Worker **Harry Straub** knew something was wrong. Stricken with a queasy and lightheaded feeling, he contacted BART Police Dispatcher Mary Hetrick for help. Mary called for paramedic and BART police assistance.

Sgt. **Brenda Marshall** and Officer **Don Leitao** arrived, and got Harry immediate medical help. He had suffered an aneurism, which can be life-threatening if not treated right away.

Harry quickly got the medical care he needed, and recently contacted BART Police Commander **John Kerwin** to say "thanks" for the outstanding and rapid response. Harry is recovering at home, says John, "with a scar that runs from stem to stern."

Get well, soon, Harry!

BART police dog "**Bill**" was declared Top Dog at the third annual Petaluma Police Canine Trials, held July 22. Bill and his handler, BART Police Officer **Don Leitao**, competed against 48 officer-canine teams to reach the overall best rating. Dog Bill and Officer Don also placed first in agility, fifth in handler protection and 12th in search ability.

Best wishes to two new mom's!! **Fannie Mackson**, a budget analyst in System Service Administration & Budgeting, gave birth June 7 to Ariana Joanne Mackson; the new Ms. Mackson weighed in at 8 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 inches long. **Aminta Thornton**, a staff assistant in Contract Management, brought Alexis Andrea Hill into the world on August 4; she weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Darlene Cummins was recently promoted to Manager-Special Investigations and Audits in the Internal Audit Department. She had been the acting manager. Darlene has been with BART for nearly five years, as senior auditor-special investigations and auditor-special investigations prior to her acting management role. Darlene has led the department's investigative team, working on complex audits and managing several large audits of the Development Department. Prior to coming to BART, Darlene worked at the Alameda Naval Air Station as an internal audit manager, and held several other financial positions with the federal government.

Congratulations, Darlene. **b**

CPR

Are you prepared to save a life? Possibly the life of a child—maybe one of your own?

Or the life of a complete stranger?

It could happen! Knowing how to apply CPR, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, could save a life. Call Ext.6292/6293.



FALL IS IN THE AIR!

And a motorcycle ride is one way to enjoy it! For sale, 91 Kawasaki H.S. 250 Motorcycle, 1,500 mi., mint condition, not a scratch. **Call Mike at Ext. 4215/4216 before noon Monday -Friday.**

FOR SALE!

Solid Oak Rolltop Desk. Like new condition. Measures 28" X 45." \$350 or b/o. Solid Wood Floor Length Mirror with roses inlaid design. \$100 or b/o. **Call Didy at Ext. 6088.**

GREAT VACATION DEAL for Family, Retirees, Etc.

For Sale - Thousand Trails / Naco Gold Card membership. Valid for U.S., including Hawaii and Canada. Travel, camping, outdoor recreation. **Call Jo at Ext. 2658, 3-11 p.m. days or 510/676-8863 before 3 p.m..**

CABIN FOR RENT (Dodge Ridge)

Two bks. to horseback riding & swim lagoon. Nearby lakes for boating, fishing & river-rafting. Historic towns & caves. Sleeps 8. \$150 wknd., \$50 wkdy., \$300 wk. **Call Sue at ext. 2518 or 352-3473.**

GOT TRAVELLING ON YOUR MIND?

For Sale - Membership in NACO West (Affiliated with Thousand Trails). Campground facilities throughout California and Western States, \$5,900 price includes first year dues (now approx. \$400 annually). Membership can be sole or assigned to another person. **Call Kent or Beverly at 510/825-5286 or 510/287-4779.**

FOR RENT -

Great Condo / Cabin

Maui, HI - 1 bdrm condo (sleeps 4) fully equip. Tennis, pools, dining, shopping and Maui's best beaches just footsteps away. \$65/night - \$400/wk.

Lake Tahoe - "Cozy" 3 bdrm "A-Frame" cabin (sleeps 6+) in forest setting & fully equip. 2-mi so. of Tahoe City, 10 min. walk to private beach w/boat docks, BBQ & tbl. grass and game area, panoramic views, nearby dining, shops, biking, walking trails, casinos and skiing. \$100/night - \$575/wk. **Call Dennis at Ext. 2821 or 510/828-0744.** (Photo book available)

LOOKING FOR NEW WHEELS?

For Sale - 1990 BMW 750Li. Immaculate, loaded, only 29k mi. V-12, CD, phone, alarm, etc. Only one owner. \$31,000. **Call Frank Lew at 510/635-5994.**

Time to clean out those drawers, closets and garages!

BARTalk's Trash and Treasures column offers you an opportunity to pick up some extra cash for those unwanted items you no longer need. Send your ads—no telephone calls—to *Trash & Treasures*, *BARTalk*, *LMA-I*, Email to *VWills*, or Fax to 464-7103.

Another Satisfied Employee...

I thought you'd be interested to know that twice I advertised in *Trash and Treasures*, and I sold my advertised items through callers generated by *BARTalk's Trash and Treasures*. Thanks and keep up the good work! *Erlinda S. On*

Get out of the dark!



464-6223

For BART
Employees Only!

Call the 24 Hour Job Hotline

In Touch with BART

Want to hear up-to-date information from the General Manager's office? What about unions and associations? Or Human Resources and Development? Or the progress of BART's extensions?

All you have to do is call 464-6300 and the information will be right at the tip of your finger. You've reached the BART Employee Information Hotline.

The new Hotline is an outgrowth of the Joint Labor-Management formation group, which has been meeting regularly since January and is close to awarding a contract to a facilitator who will assist in creating a labor-management structure to improve the work environment at BART.

The Hotline messages will be changed every week. Give the Hotline a call. Reach out and get in touch with what's going on at BART. **b**



BARTalk

A publication for and about the employees of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District

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